

Reactivation of the SR-71 was not supported by the House conferees during the House-Senate conference on the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1995. Furthermore, the U.S. Air Force does not consider reactivation of the three existing SR-71 planes to be a national defense priority or cost effective.

The Defense Airborne Reconnaissance Office's [DARO] "Report to Congress on Reactivation of the SR-71" concluded:

(1) The SR-71 is a capable good weather Broad Area Coverage collector but adds value only in pre-hostilities crisis or peace-time and only if overflight is authorized.

(2) The SR-71 adds little benefit in a hostilities situation since it does not meet timeline requirements. The early achievement of air superiority and suppression of air defenses would permit existing systems to achieve better coverage.

(3) The SR-71 is an extremely limited crisis surveillance platform since it does not have a near-real-time or loiter capability.

(4) The SR-71 in a stand-off mode (pre hostilities crisis) is much less capable than existing reconnaissance assets (e.g., U-2).

In its conclusion, the DARO report expressed the Air Force's concern "that as the remaining spares are depleted or shelf life expires, the cost to acquire parts that have been out of production could cause expenses to climb rapidly." Simply stated, the SR-71 reactivation is truly a low-priority defense program and it does not deserve funding at this time.

Congress authorized and appropriated \$100 million for reactivation of the SR71 in fiscal year 1995, and DARO estimates the 6-year cost of the program to average \$95.6 million per year. Unfortunately, the Appropriations Committee is only able to recover \$80 million at the present time. Nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the Appropriations Committee for including the SR-71 rescission in the bill.

INTRODUCTION OF CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT LEGISLATION

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today, Mr. TORKILDSEN and I introduced legislation to increase the effectiveness of child support enforcement by requiring the imposition and execution of liens against the property of person past due on child support obligations. Under the current system, many who owe child support enjoy real estate, boats, luxury cars, and other assets while they do not support their children.

Current law allows the imposition of liens by processing orders through the judicial system. This is a difficult process for an out of State parent. This legislation would improve the current system by ordering States to give full faith and credit to any lien imposed by another State in the pursuit of child support collection.

My home State of Massachusetts has been very successful in improving child support and should serve as a role model for the rest of the country. Massachusetts has increased its child support collection rate from 51 to 67 percent over a 3-year period. Massachusetts has improved its child support collection by issuing

administrative liens in every case where an obligor owes more than \$500 in past child support. This type of provision on the Federal level would raise the rate of compliance in interstate cases.

Currently, the potential for child support collection is approximately \$48 billion per year. However, only \$14 billion is actually collected. This leaves a \$34 billion gap. Requiring administrative liens for all cases would help reduce this gap. Child support enforcement is an essential aspect of welfare reform. I urge you to support this legislation.

IN SUPPORT OF THE TECHNOLOGY REINVESTMENT PROJECT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Technology Reinvestment Project [TRP], an innovative government-industry partnership which deserves continued funding within the Federal budget.

This year, as we mark the anniversaries of important battles of World War II and pay tribute to those who fought so bravely some fifty years ago, the realities of the post-cold-war world have compelled us to make dramatic changes in our military, economic, and political thinking. While we commemorate the monumental events of the past, we also look toward the future and the approach of the 21st century. Today we are presented with tremendous opportunities for creating lasting peace in historically volatile areas such as the Middle East, while at the same time we are faced with new challenges such as how best to curb the spread of weapons of mass destruction which threatens our security and the security of generations to come. As we enter this new era, the enormous opportunities and challenges which await us apply also to our industrial competitiveness and economic security.

Since its inception in 1992, the Technology Reinvestment Project has been an important part of our military and economic strategy for the next century. It is clear that the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the cold war did not bring an end to the need for a strong U.S. military. Instead of a potential confrontation with a global nuclear superpower, however, we now must prepare for regional conflicts and protect our position as a world leader in technology development for both military and civilian uses. The TRP has been a key tool for maintaining the future readiness of our Armed Services by ensuring that cutting-edge technologies continue to be developed in support of U.S. soldiers around the world. As the first comprehensive post-cold-war approach to defense technology, the TRP has greatly expanded the ability of our forces to utilize the creativity and strength of the commercial marketplace to affordably obtain the technology needed today and in the future.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Army now is the seventh largest in the world and is heading towards eighth place. Leading edge technology always has permitted our Armed Services to be the world's best fighting force. Over the years, our technological superiority has made it possible for our soldiers to work smarter, not harder. The TRP is crucial for the maintenance

of our leadership in both the military and civilian sectors. As such an important transition point in world history, when we are adjusting to the changes brought about by the fall of communism and measuring national security not merely in military terms, but also in economic terms, the need for the TRP never has been greater. I urge my colleagues to support full funding for the TRP and similar programs aimed at bolstering our military and economic strength.

THE ASSOCIATION OF EQUALITY IN EDUCATION CELEBRATES THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF FEDERAL TRIP PROGRAMS

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to my colleagues' attention the 30th anniversary of our Federal TRIO programs, which in my South Bronx district will be celebrated this Saturday by the Association of Equality and Excellence in Education at Fordham University's Rose Hill Campus.

Mr. Speaker, title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 created a trio of programs to assist students in overcoming class, social, and cultural barriers to higher education. Expanded to five programs—Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Talent Search, Educational Opportunity Centers, and Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement—TRIO provides vital assistance to disadvantaged youth at all stages of the quest for higher education.

From academic preparation and application counseling for secondary school students, to support services for enrolled college students and guidance for undergraduates considering doctoral study or a career in college teaching, TRIO programs are a highly effective, proactive effort to put advanced study within the reach of poor and minority students. I was pleased to have had the opportunity, as a member of the conference committee that crafted the final version of the higher education amendments of 1992, to play a direct role in expanding and improving this already successful program.

Mr. Speaker, among the many outstanding individuals who benefitted from TRIO are two of our colleagues, Mr. ALBERT WYNN of Maryland and Mr. CLEO FIELDS of Louisiana. I ask all of my colleagues to join us and the Association of Equality and Excellence in Education in celebrating the 30th anniversary of this exceptional program.

TRIBUTE TO MARIO AND MADELINE JASON

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mario and Madeline Jason, who have given tirelessly of their time and resources to Shaarey Zedek Congregation of North Hollywood and the Jewish community of